

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



July 3, 1990

ALL-COUNTY LETTER NO. 90-62

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: HOMELESS ASSISTANCE PAYMENT INDICATOR (HAPI)

In April 1990 the Office of Auditor General (OAG) of the State of California published the results of a study of the Homeless Assistance (HA) program entitled "Improvements are needed in the State's program to provide assistance to homeless families". A portion of the report addressed the use of the Homeless Assistance Payment Indicator (HAPI) by counties.

The OAG was critical of the State regarding county use of HAPI.

The OAG pointed out a number of cases (approximately 20 percent of their sample) in which an incorrect duplicate payment was made between two counties. A review of these cases by State staff revealed that the duplicate payment occurred several weeks or even months after the first HA was paid. It could be concluded that had the HAPI system been fully operational at the time of these HA payments, and had the HAPI information been effectively utilized, these duplicate payments would not have been made.

This All County Letter serves as a reminder to counties of the requirement to enter data on HA payments into HAPI. This letter also instructs counties to check HAPI for all their applicants for HA. The HAPI system can be accessed through a separate transaction through the MEDS network, or the data can be obtained from the Income Eligibility Verification System (IEVS) known to welfare segment.

The Fraud Program Management Bureau (FPMB) has expanded the scope of their periodic reviews of IEVS to include county HAPI usage. They will be reviewing county HAPI input and procedures,

and recommending corrective actions where appropriate. In addition, FPMB will soon be reviewing reports from the HAPI system regarding the level of county input.

If your county would like assistance in any way regarding use of the HAPI system, such as training or answering any questions you or your staff may have regarding the most effective use of HAPI, please contact Bill Schmidt of the Fraud Program Management Bureau at (916) 445-2757.



ROBERT A. HOREL
Deputy Director

cc: CWDA